ALL NEW

Love Diary

CHARLTON COMICS 25¢

NO. 95 OCT | 00355 75/CDC

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00355

BUS TO NOWHERE
WHEN I BOARDED THE BUS IN WASHINGTON, D.C., IT WAS FOR A LONG, LONG RIDE... CLEAR ACROSS THE COUNTRY... I WAS LEAVING MY DIVORCED FATHER AND HIS BACHELOR PAD IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL, RETURNING TO MY EMBITTERED, NAGGING MOTHER IN LOS ANGELES! DAD'S WAY OF LIFE SEEMED EMPTY AND WITHOUT PURPOSE... HE WAS BECOMING AN OVER-AGE PLAYBOY... WHILE MOM NEVER SEEMED TO LAUGH OR ENJOY LIFE! I WAS THINKING OF THEM IN MY BUS SEAT WHEN A VOICE BROKE MY UNHAPPY REVERIE...
IS THIS SEAT TAKEN, MISS?
N-NO. YOU CAN SIT HERE.
LOVE DIARY

LOVE DIARY Vol. 7, No. 95, October, 1975,
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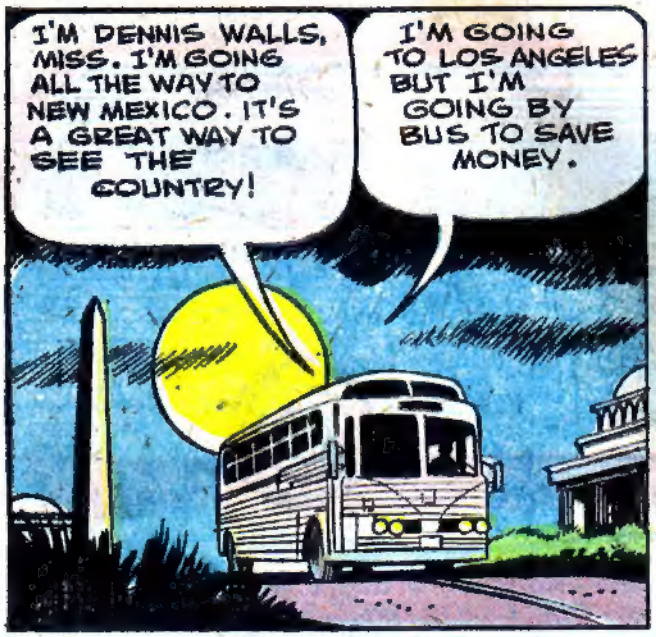
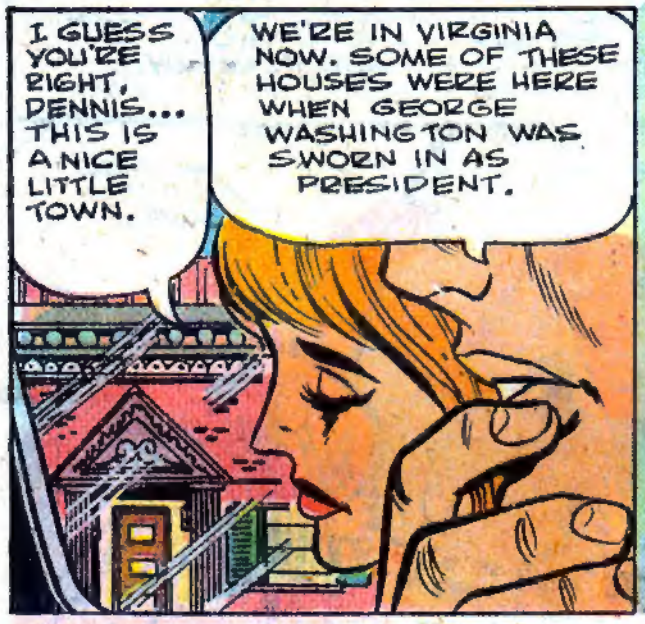
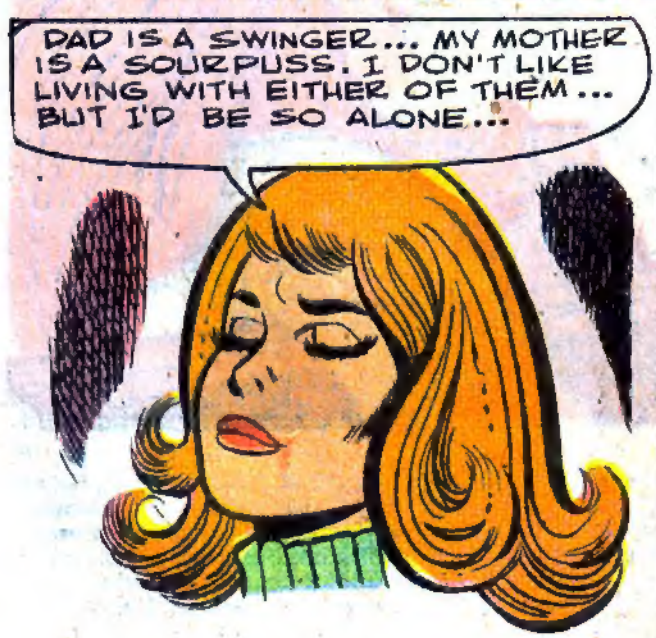

I'M DENNIS WALLS, MISS. I'M GOING ALL THE WAY TO NEW MEXICO. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO SEE THE COUNTRY!
I'M GOING TO LOS ANGELES BUT I'M GOING BY BUS TO SAVE MONEY.

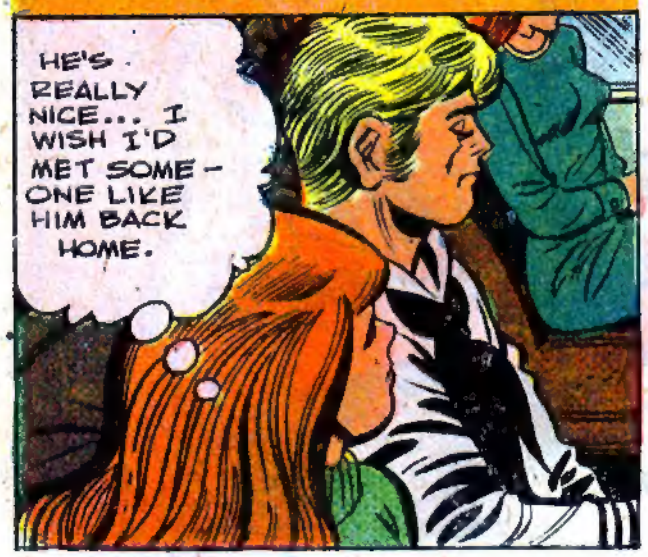

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, DENNIS... THIS IS A NICE LITTLE TOWN.
WE'RE IN VIRGINIA NOW. SOME OF THESE HOUSES WERE HERE WHEN GEORGE WASHINGTON WAS SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT.

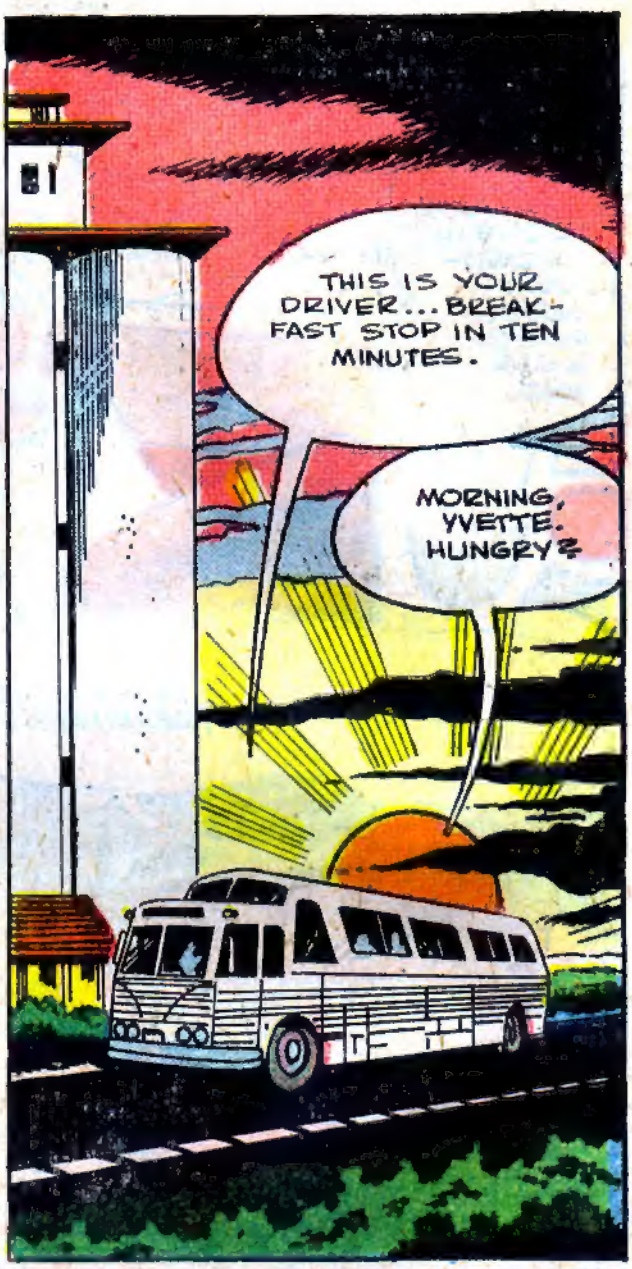
WHEN WE STOPPED FOR COFFEE AND FOOD, DENNIS ORDERED FOR ME... HE WASN'T AS YOUNG AS I'D THOUGHT. I LEARNED MORE ABOUT HIM AS WE ATE...

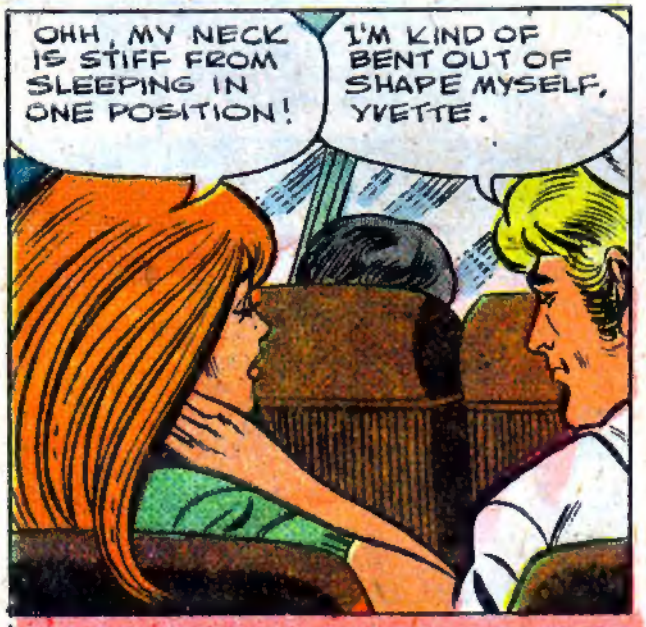


YOU'VE HAD A ROUGH TIME BUT FOR A DAY OR TWO ALL YOU CAN DO IS RELAX, AND TALK TO ME UNTIL THE BUS REACHES SANTA ROSA, NEW MEXICO!
I'LL TRY NOT TO THINK OF THE FUTURE, DENNIS.

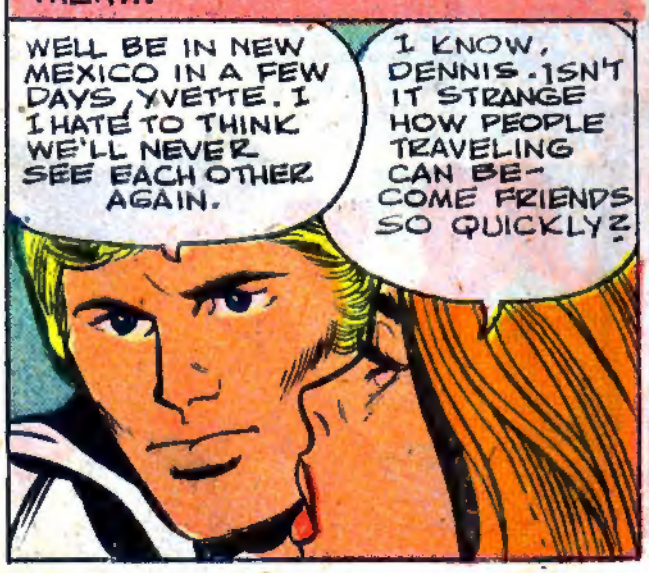
I SLEPT FOR HOURS THAT NIGHT... AS DID DENNIS! I AWAKENED FIRST...

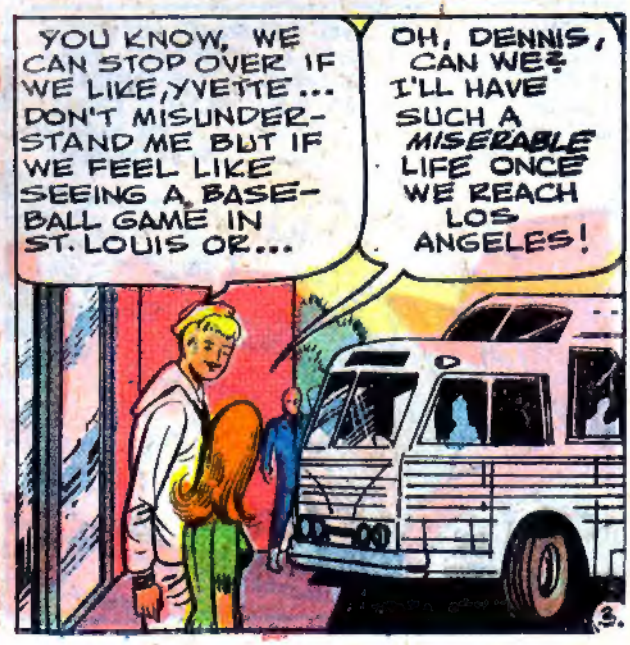


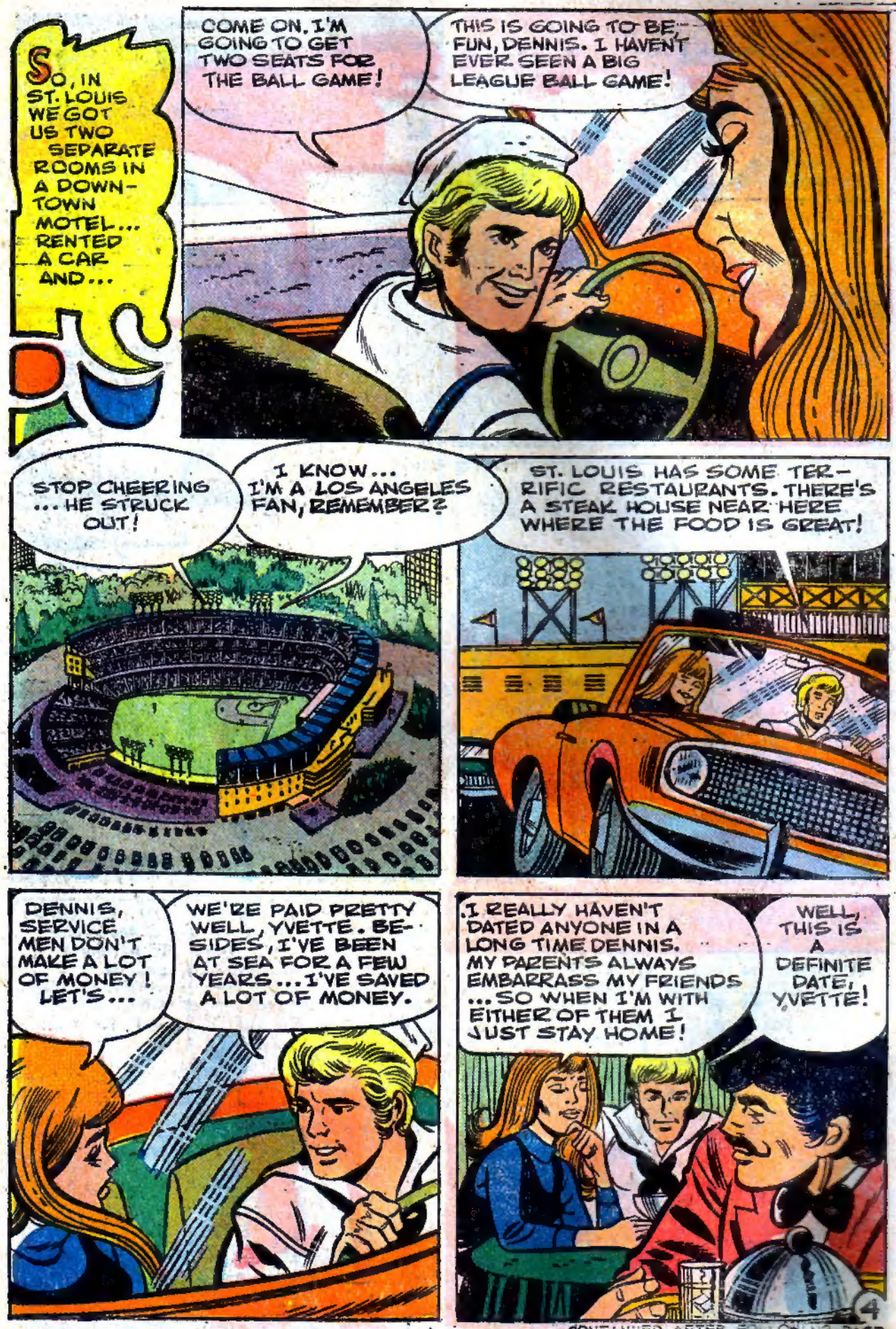




WE ATE SAUSAGE, TOAST, AND EGGS, THEN...


WELL BE IN NEW MEXICO IN A FEW DAYS, YVETTE. I I HATE TO THINK WE'LL NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.
I KNOW, DENNIS. ISN'T IT STRANGE HOW PEOPLE TRAVELING CAN BECOME FRIENDS SO QUICKLY?


YOU KNOW, WE CAN STOP OVER IF WE LIKE, YVETTE... DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME BUT IF WE FEEL LIKE SEEING A BASEBALL GAME IN ST. LOUIS OR...
OH, DENNIS, CAN WE? I'LL HAVE SUCH A MISERABLE LIFE ONCE WE REACH LOS ANGELES!


So, in St. Louis we got us two separate rooms in a down-town motel... rented a car and...
COME ON, I'M GOING TO GET TWO SEATS FOR THE BALL GAME!
THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN, DENNIS. I HAVENT EVER SEEN A BIG LEAGUE BALL GAME!
STOP CHEERING ... HE STRUCK OUT!
I KNOW... I'M A LOS ANGELES FAN, REMEMBER?
ST. LOUIS HAS SOME TER-RIFIC RESTAURANTS. THERE'S A STEAK HOUSE NEAR HERE WHERE THE FOOD IS GREAT!
DENNIS, SERVICE MEN DON'T MAKE A LOT OF MONEY! LET'S...
WE'RE PAID PRETTY WELL, YVETTE. BE-SIDES, I'VE BEEN AT SEA FOR A FEW YEARS... I'VE SAVED A LOT OF MONEY.
I REALLY HAVEN'T DATED ANYONE IN A LONG TIME DENNIS. MY PARENTS ALWAYS EMBARRASS MY FRIENDS ...SO WHEN I'M WITH EITHER OF THEM I JUST STAY HOME!
WELL, THIS IS A DEFINITE DATE, YVETTE!
4
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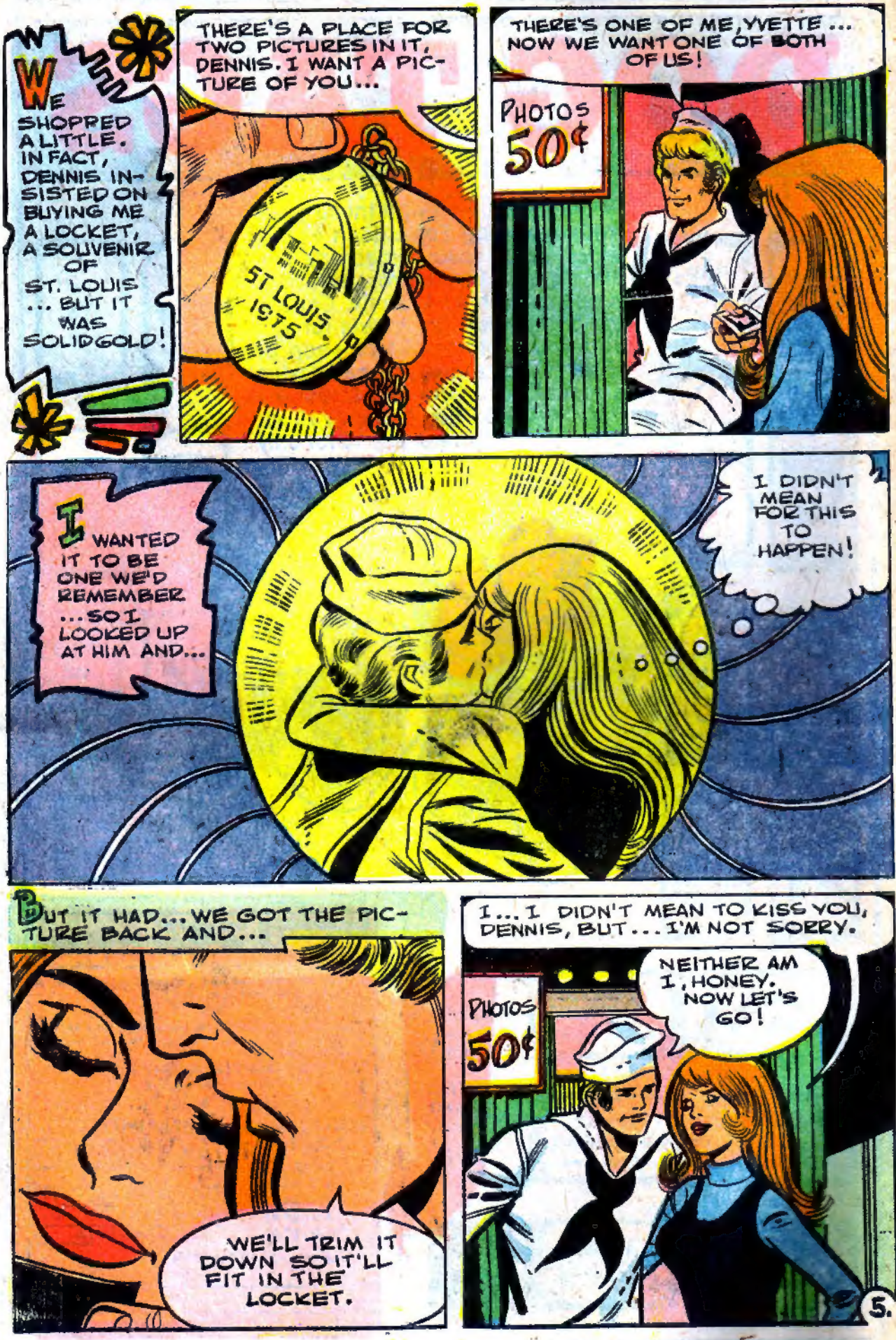
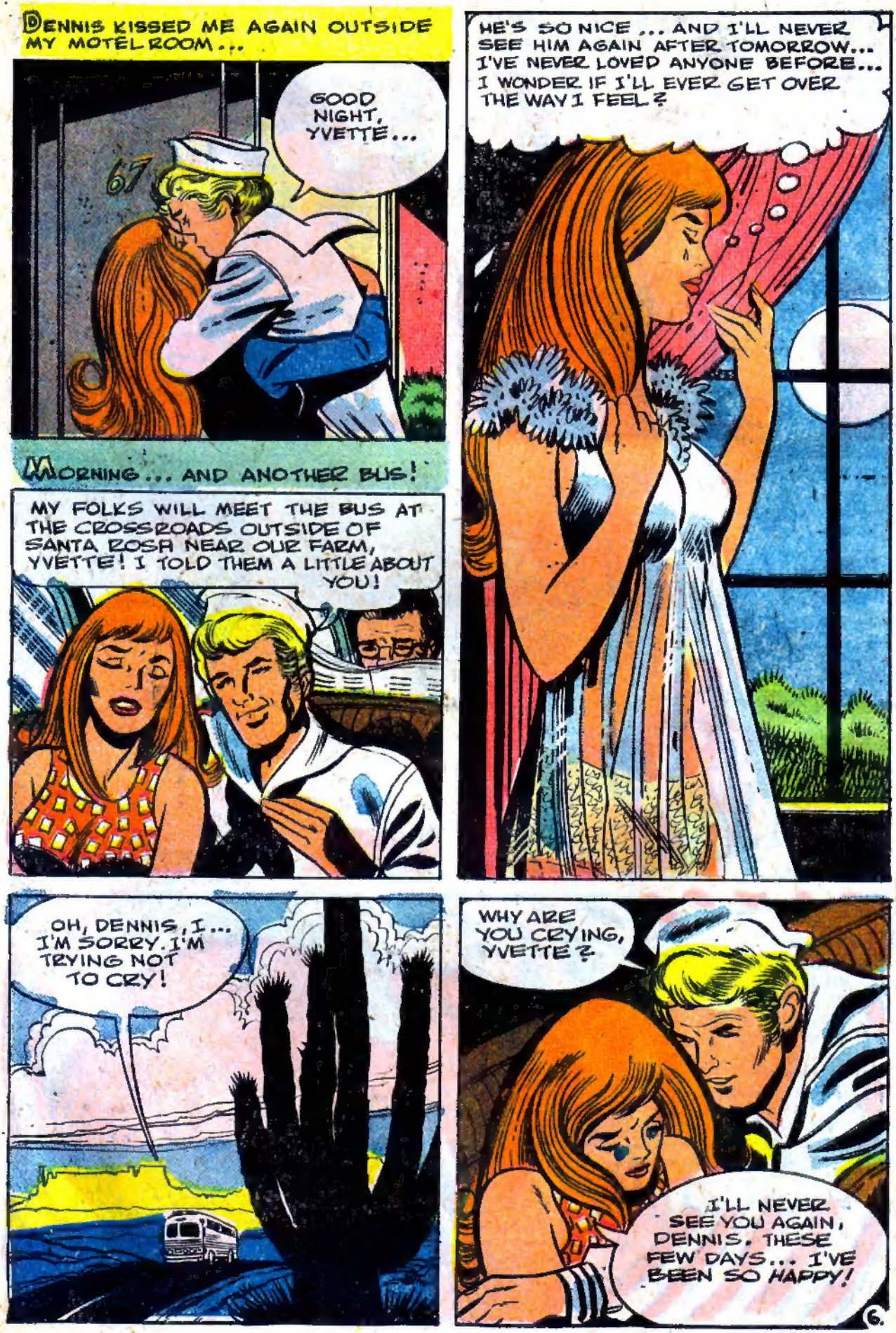
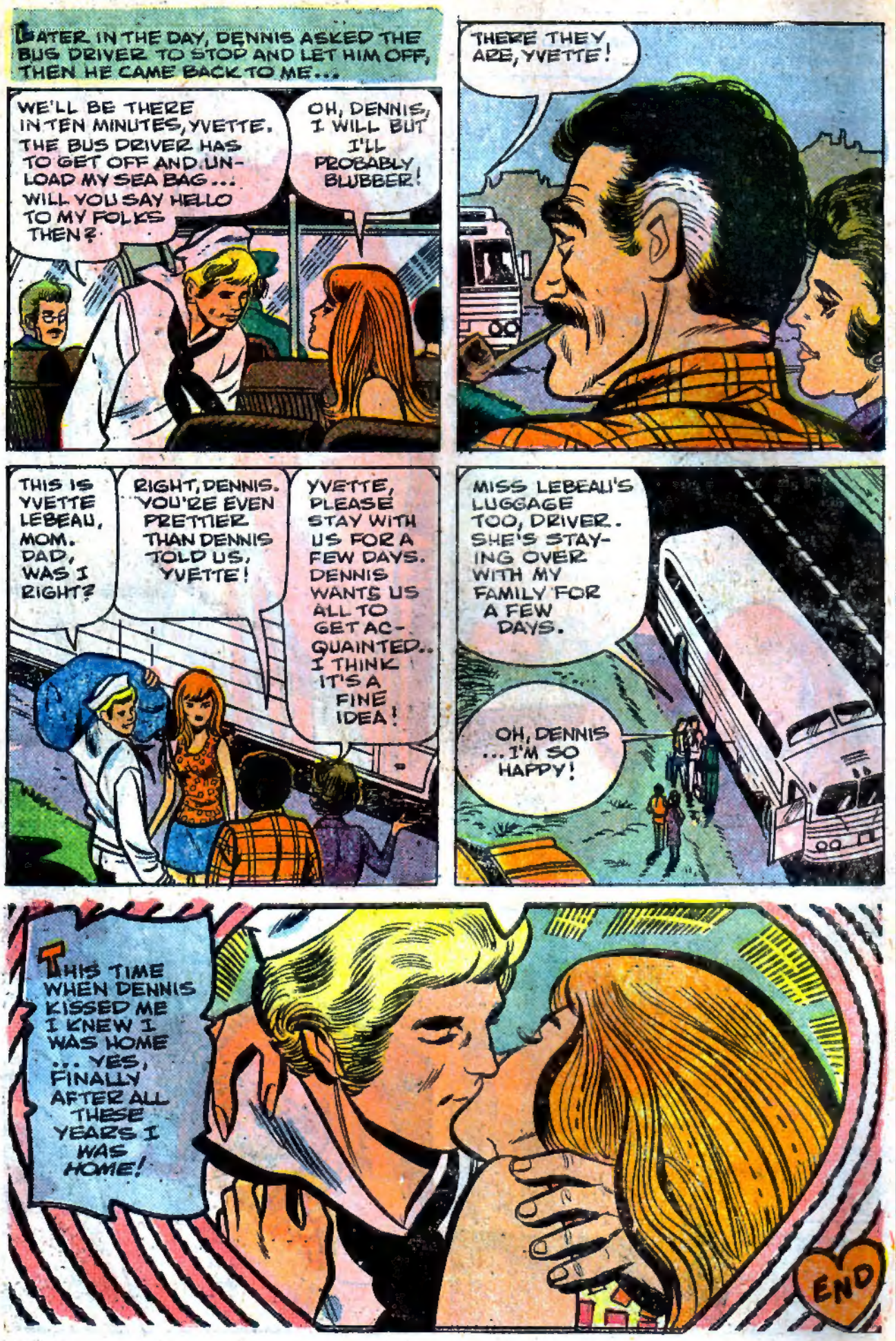
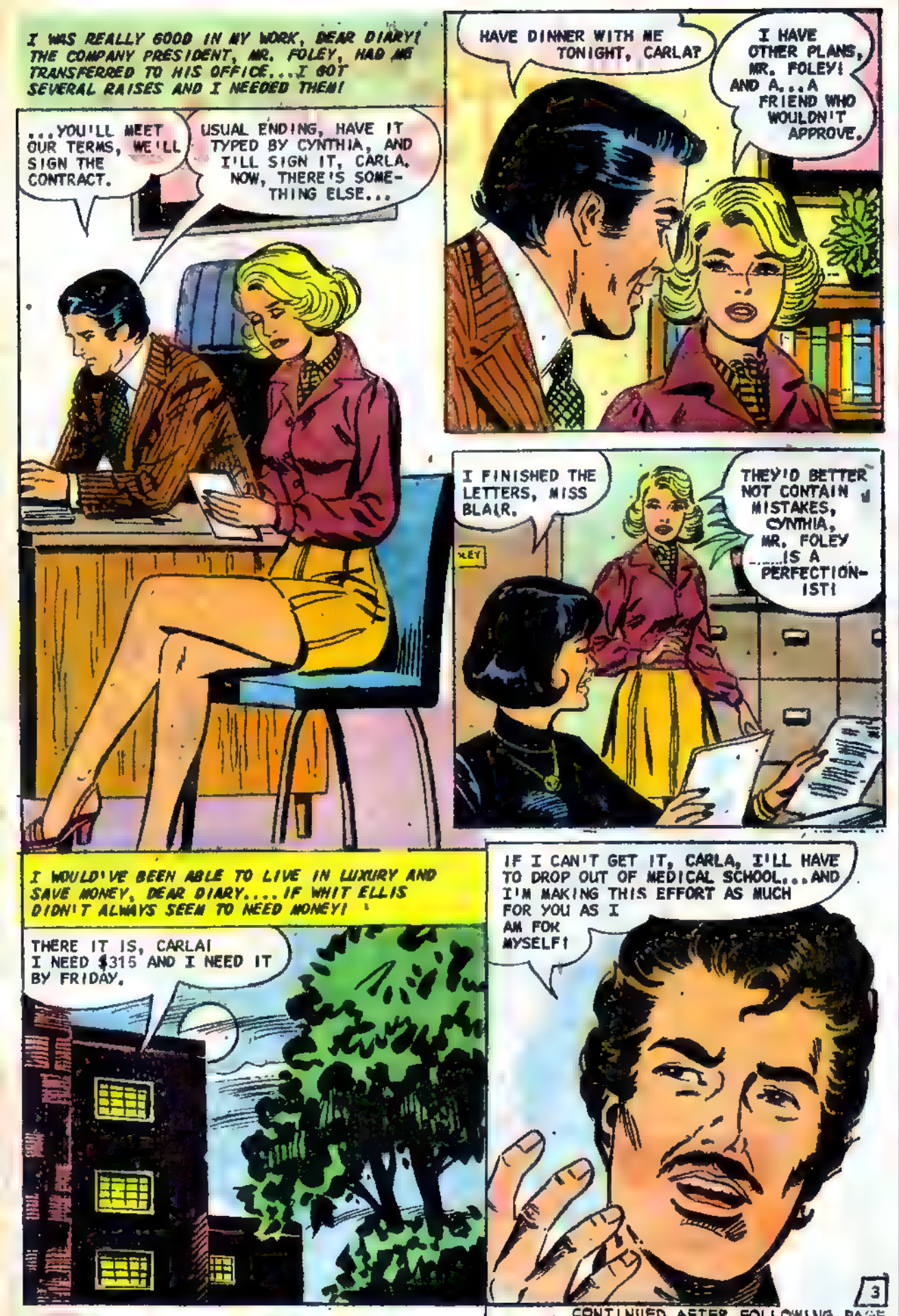

WE SHOPPED A LITTLE. IN FACT, DENNIS INSISTED ON BUYING ME A LOCKET, A SOUVENIR OF ST. LOUIS ... BUT IT WAS SOLID GOLD!
THERE'S A PLACE FOR TWO PICTURES IN IT, DENNIS. I WANT A PICTURE OF YOU...
ST LOUIS 1975
THERE'S ONE OF ME, YVETTE ... NOW WE WANT ONE OF BOTH OF US!
PHOTOS 50¢
I WANTED IT TO BE ONE WE'D REMEMBER ...SO I LOOKED UP AT HIM AND...
I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THIS TO HAPPEN!
BUT IT HAD... WE GOT THE PICTURE BACK AND...
WE'LL TRIM IT DOWN SO IT'LL FIT IN THE LOCKET.
I... I DIDN'T MEAN TO KISS YOU, DENNIS, BUT... I'M NOT SORRY.
NEITHER AM I, HONEY. NOW LET'S GO!
PHOTOS 50¢
5.


DENNIS KISSED ME AGAIN OUTSIDE MY MOTEL ROOM...
GOOD NIGHT, YVETTE...
67
HE'S SO NICE ... AND I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN AFTER TOMORROW... I'VE NEVER LOVED ANYONE BEFORE... I WONDER IF I'LL EVER GET OVER THE WAY I FEEL?
MORNING... AND ANOTHER BUS!
MY FOLKS WILL MEET THE BUS AT THE CROSSROADS OUTSIDE OF SANTA ROSA NEAR OUR FARM, YVETTE! I TOLD THEM A LITTLE ABOUT YOU!
OH, DENNIS, I... I'M SORRY. I'M TRYING NOT TO CRY!
WHY ARE YOU CRYING, YVETTE?
I'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN, DENNIS. THESE FEW DAYS... I'VE BEEN SO HAPPY!
6.


LATER IN THE DAY, DENNIS ASKED THE BUS DRIVER TO STOP AND LET HIM OFF, THEN HE CAME BACK TO ME...
WE'LL BE THERE IN TEN MINUTES, YVETTE. THE BUS DRIVER HAS TO GET OFF AND UNLOAD MY SEA BAG... WILL YOU SAY HELLO TO MY FOLKS THEN?
OH, DENNIS, I WILL BUT I'LL PROBABLY BLUBBER!
THERE THEY ARE, YVETTE!
THIS IS YVETTE LEBEAU, MOM. DAD, WAS I RIGHT?
RIGHT, DENNIS. YOU'RE EVEN PRETTIER THAN DENNIS TOLD US, YVETTE!
YVETTE, PLEASE STAY WITH US FOR A FEW DAYS. DENNIS WANTS US ALL TO GET ACQUAINTED.. I THINK IT'S A FINE IDEA!
MISS LEBEAU'S LUGGAGE TOO, DRIVER. SHE'S STAYING OVER WITH MY FAMILY FOR A FEW DAYS.
OH, DENNIS ...I'M SO HAPPY!
THIS TIME WHEN DENNIS KISSED ME I KNEW I WAS HOME ... YES, FINALLY AFTER ALL THESE YEARS I WAS HOME!
END

DINNER WAS DELICIOUS, CARLA...BUT YOUR LIPS ARE EVEN SWEETER!
OH, DARLING.. SKIP THE PRETTY SPEECHES AND...
Moment OF Glory
I'D BEEN IN LOVE BEFORE, DEAR DIARY... I WAS ENGAGED TO A MAN WHO MET ANOTHER GIRL IN LOS ANGELES WHEN HE WENT THERE ON BUSINESS...HE DIDN'T RETURN TO CHICAGO UNTIL AFTER THE HONEYMOON! NOW, I WAS IN LOVE AGAIN...THIS TIME, WE DIDN'T DISCUSS WEDDING PLANS... WHITNEY ELLIS WAS IN HIS FIRST YEAR OF MEDICAL SCHOOL...HE COULDN'T TAKE ME OUT TO DINNER...HE WAS JUST SCRAPING BY...BUT I DIDN'T CARE...AS LONG AS HE HELD ME IN HIS ARMS AND...
...KISS ME!
NICHOLAS ALASCIA
D-6227
1

WHIT, AFTER YOU FINISH SCHOOL, YOU'LL INTERN AT...
SSSHH...I WANT TO HEAR THIS!
HE'S EDGY...FROM STUDYING TOO HARD...AND HE'S THIN... I'LL SEE HE GETS ENOUGH TO EAT!
I FELL MORE IN LOVE EACH TIME I SAW WHIT, DEAR DIARY... AND HE PRACTICALLY LIVED IN MY APARTMENT!
HE'S AN EXCELLENT STUDENT... HE'S GOING TO BE A BRILLIANT DOCTOR SOME DAY! HE OFTEN DOES THAT...HE DOESN'T SPEAK TO ME FOR HOURS...BUT I DON'T CARE...HE LOVES ME!
THANKS FOR BEING PATIENT, DARLING. WANT TO CATCH THE LATE NEWS...OR JUST SIT AND TALK!
NO, DARLING ...THAT ISN'T WHAT I WANT AT ALL!
THIS IS WHAT I WANT, DARLING!
2


I WAS REALLY GOOD IN MY WORK, DEAR DIARY! THE COMPANY PRESIDENT, MR. FOLEY, HAD ME TRANSFERRED TO HIS OFFICE...I GOT SEVERAL RAISES AND I NEEDED THEM!
HAVE DINNER WITH ME TONIGHT, CARLA?
I HAVE OTHER PLANS, MR. FOLEY! AND A...A FRIEND WHO WOULDN'T APPROVE.
...YOU'LL MEET OUR TERMS, WE'LL SIGN THE CONTRACT.
USUAL ENDING, HAVE IT TYPED BY CYNTHIA, AND I'LL SIGN IT, CARLA. NOW, THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE...
I FINISHED THE LETTERS, MISS BLAIR.
KEY
THEY'D BETTER NOT CONTAIN MISTAKES, CYNTHIA, MR. FOLEY .....IS A PERFECTIONIST!
I WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO LIVE IN LUXURY AND SAVE MONEY, DEAR DIARY.... IF WHIT ELLIS DIDN'T ALWAYS SEEM TO NEED MONEY!
THERE IT IS, CARLA! I NEED $315 AND I NEED IT BY FRIDAY.
IF I CAN'T GET IT, CARLA, I'LL HAVE TO DROP OUT OF MEDICAL SCHOOL...AND I'M MAKING THIS EFFORT AS MUCH FOR YOU AS I AM FOR MYSELF!
3
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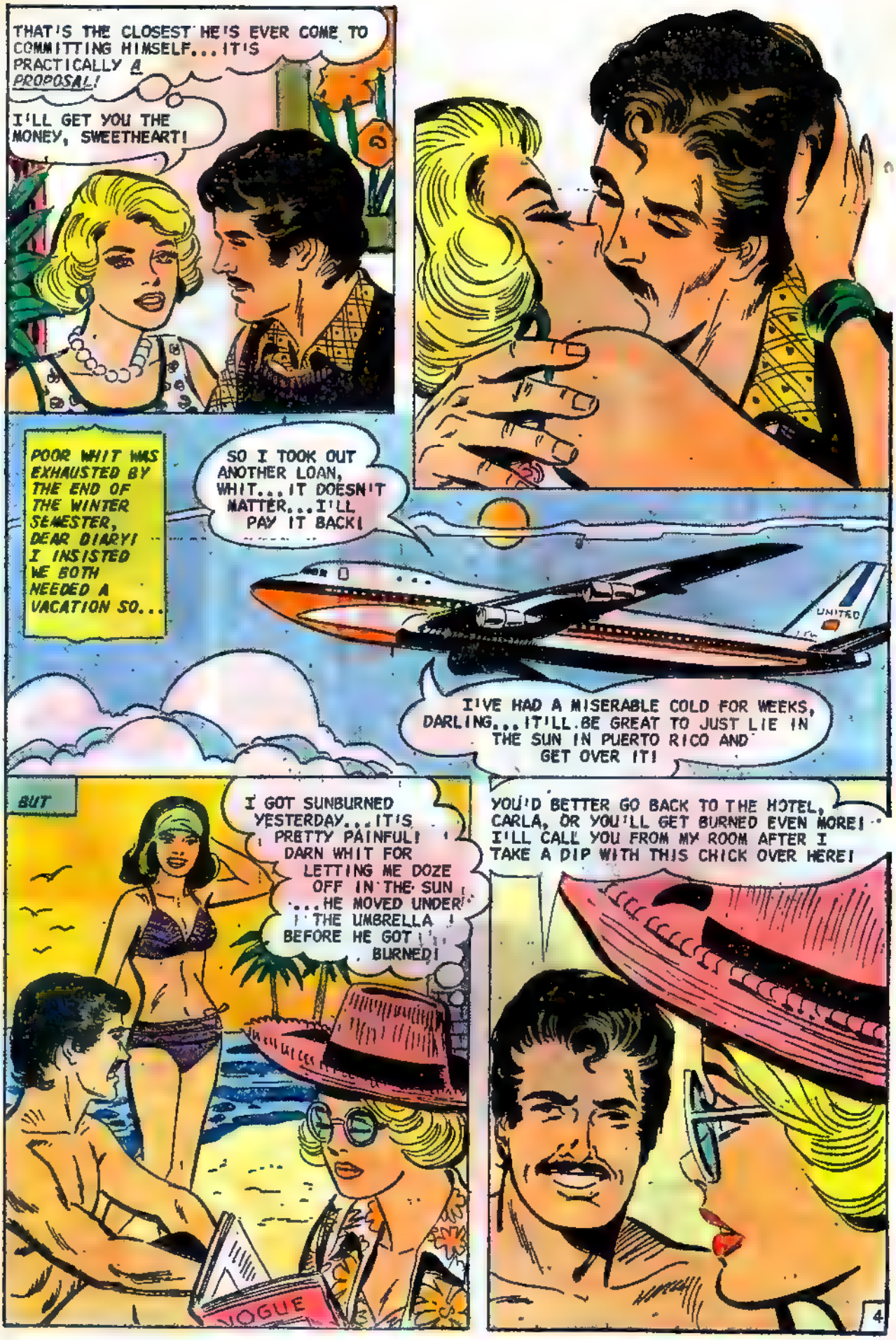

THAT'S THE CLOSEST HE'S EVER COME TO COMMITTING HIMSELF... IT'S PRACTICALLY A PROPOSAL!
I'LL GET YOU THE MONEY, SWEETHEART!
POOR WHIT WAS EXHAUSTED BY THE END OF THE WINTER SEMESTER, DEAR DIARY! I INSISTED WE BOTH NEEDED A VACATION SO...
SO I TOOK OUT ANOTHER LOAN, WHIT... IT DOESN'T MATTER... I'LL PAY IT BACK!
UNITED
I'VE HAD A MISERABLE COLD FOR WEEKS, DARLING... IT'LL BE GREAT TO JUST LIE IN THE SUN IN PUERTO RICO AND GET OVER IT!
BUT
I GOT SUNBURNED YESTERDAY... IT'S PRETTY PAINFUL! DARN WHIT FOR LETTING ME DOZE OFF IN THE SUN ...HE MOVED UNDER THE UMBRELLA BEFORE HE GOT BURNED!
VOGUE
YOU'D BETTER GO BACK TO THE HOTEL, CARLA, OR YOU'LL GET BURNED EVEN MORE! I'LL CALL YOU FROM MY ROOM AFTER I TAKE A DIP WITH THIS CHICK OVER HERE!
4

I--TOOK A COOL SHOWER IN MY ROOM (WHIT'S WAS JUST ACROSS THE HALL) AND THEN PUT ON SUNBURN LOTION...AFTER THAT, DEAR DIARY, I WENT OUT ON THE BALCONY TO LOOK FOR WHIT....

THERE'S WHIT AND... OH, NO!

IT DOESN'T MEAN ANY-THING...THE GIRL THREW HERSELF AT HIM...WHIT WOULDN'T BE HUMAN IF HE DIDN'T RESPOND!

I MADE UP MY MIND NOT TO MENTION IT LATER WHEN...

CARLA, YOU'RE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THIS HOTEL!

AND YOU'VE EYEBALLED THEM ALL, HAVEN'T YOU, DARLING?

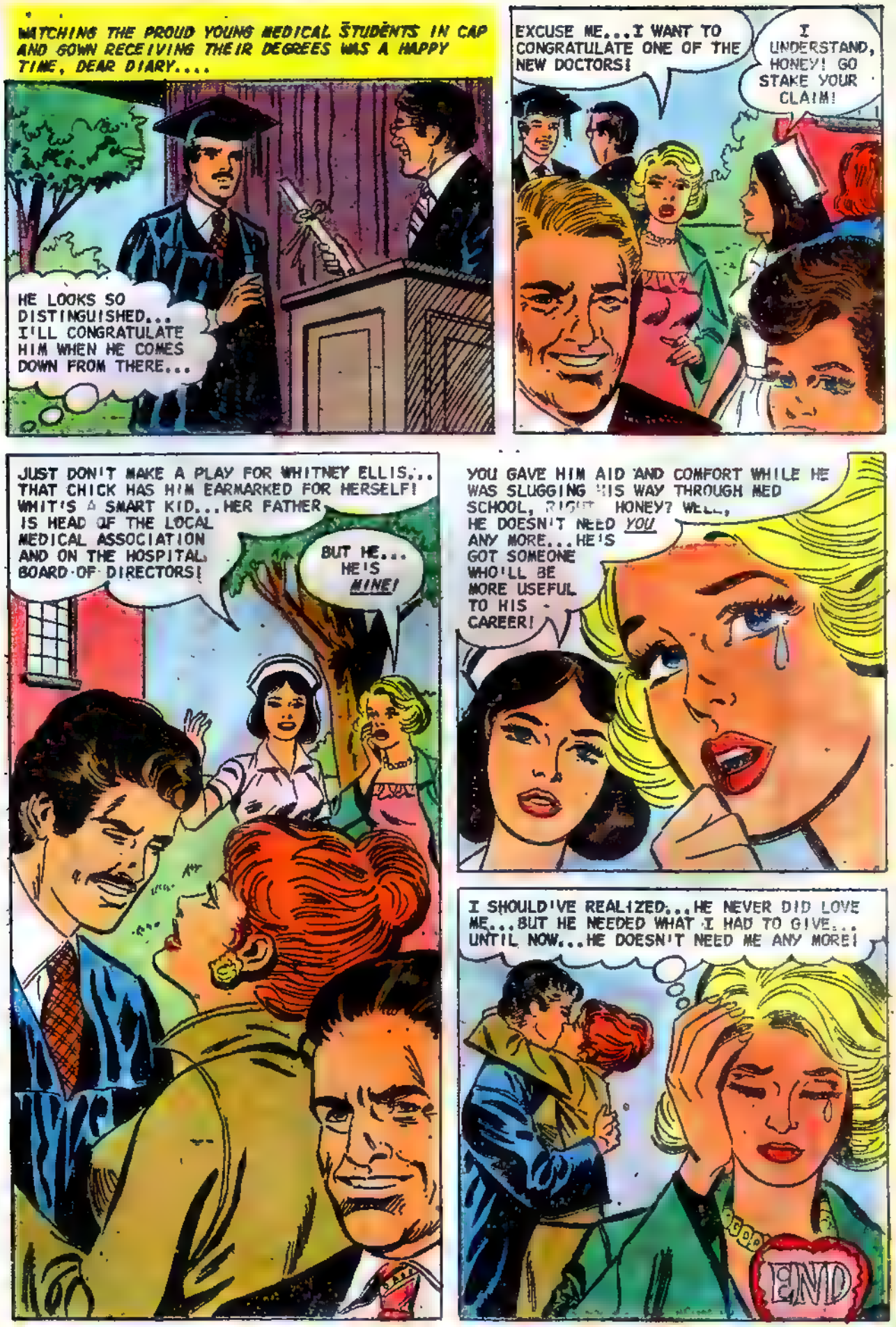
YOU CAN SHOP AROUND ALL YOU LIKE, SWEETHEART...AS LONG AS YOU RE-MEMBER...I'M YOUR GIRL!

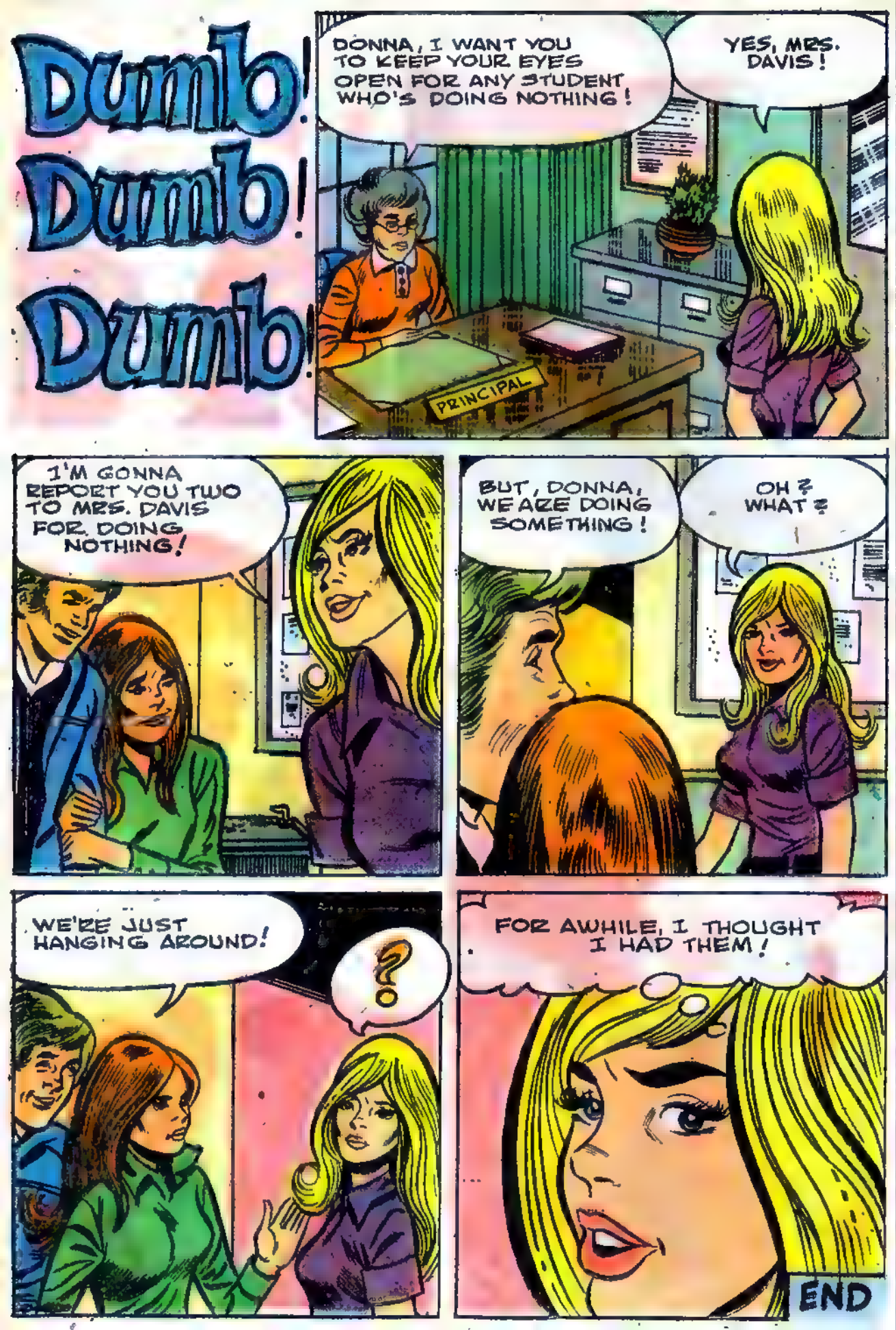
WE HAD A MARVELOUS VACATION..

WE'VE GOT TO FLY HOME TOMORROW... MAYBE SOME DAY WE'LL COME BACK HERE... ON OUR HONEY-MOON!

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

NOW, IN HIS LAST MONTHS OF MEDICAL SCHOOL, DEAR DIARY, WHIT HAD EVEN LESS TIME FOR ME! HE STILL CAME TO THE APARTMENT FOUR OR FIVE NIGHTS A WEEK BUT....
WHIT, WILL WE HAVE TIME LATER TO TALK?
SORRY, GOT TO GET BACK TO MY PAD.. THERE'S ANOTHER TEXT THERE I'VE GOT TO USE!
MEDICAL
ARE YOU SURE YOU NEED FIFTY, WHIT? I'M PRETTY BROKE AND..
I WOULDN'T ASK IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO HAVE IT, CARLA!
LOOK, IF YOU'RE TIRED OF ALL THIS, JUST SAY THE...
LET'S NOT QUARREL, SWEETHEART!
I ADORE YOU!
THEN, IT WAS JUNE...AND THE GRADUATION CEREMONIES WERE TO BE HELD...BUT WHIT WAS TOO BUSY TO EVEN DROP IN FOR A GOOD MEAL... AND I COULDN'T REACH HIM BY PHONE!
I'M SURE THIS IS GRADUATION DAY...HE TOLD ME THE DATE MONTHS AGO... BUT HE HASN'T ANSWERED THE PHONE ALL DAY!
THE GRADUATION CEREMONY TAKES PLACE OUTSIDE...I HAVEN'T AN INVITATION BUT I THINK IT'S OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
STATE MEDI SCHO
6


WATCHING THE PROUD YOUNG MEDICAL STUDENTS IN CAP AND GOWN RECEIVING THEIR DEGREES WAS A HAPPY TIME, DEAR DIARY....
HE LOOKS SO DISTINGUISHED... I'LL CONGRATULATE HIM WHEN HE COMES DOWN FROM THERE...
EXCUSE ME...I WANT TO CONGRATULATE ONE OF THE NEW DOCTORS!
I UNDERSTAND, HONEY! GO STAKE YOUR CLAIM!
JUST DON'T MAKE A PLAY FOR WHITNEY ELLIS... THAT CHICK HAS HIM EARMARKED FOR HERSELF! WHIT'S A SMART KID...HER FATHER IS HEAD OF THE LOCAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND ON THE HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS!
BUT HE... HE'S MINE!
YOU GAVE HIM AID AND COMFORT WHILE HE WAS SLUGGING HIS WAY THROUGH MED SCHOOL, RIGHT HONEY? WELL, HE DOESN'T NEED YOU ANY MORE...HE'S GOT SOMEONE WHO'LL BE MORE USEFUL TO HIS CAREER!
I SHOULD'VE REALIZED...HE NEVER DID LOVE ME...BUT HE NEEDED WHAT I HAD TO GIVE... UNTIL NOW...HE DOESN'T NEED ME ANY MORE!
END


Dumb!
Dumb!
Dumb!
DONNA, I WANT YOU TO KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR ANY STUDENT WHO'S DOING NOTHING!
YES, MRS. DAVIS!
PRINCIPAL
I'M GONNA REPORT YOU TWO TO MRS. DAVIS FOR DOING NOTHING!
BUT, DONNA, WE ARE DOING SOMETHING!
OH? WHAT?
WE'RE JUST HANGING AROUND!
?
FOR AWHILE, I THOUGHT I HAD THEM!
END

Buck's bag

Buck Mason is a specialist in teen-age problems who will be writing for this publication. He has had a wide range of experience with young people, and welcomes the chance to help you with any problems you might have. Just write him a letter, stating your situation clearly and briefly, and be sure to give all important facts. Names will be withheld in all cases, and there cannot be any personal replies.

Dear Buck:

I have a terrible problem for a girl fifteen years old. I like this guy a lot; I even feel that I love him. But he is Puerto Rican and my parents are very prejudiced against him. They don't mind if I go out with anyone except for Puerto Ricans. I've tried to talk to them many times, but nothing enters their minds except that he is Puerto Rican. This guy knows how my parents are, but he still wants to see me and I want to see him. Please give me some advice; I really need it!

Sincerely yours,
Mixed-up Girl

Dear Mixed-up:

It is unfortunate that your parents are so prejudiced. They probably have a stereotyped image of your boyfriend in mind, and no amount of pleading by you is going to effectively change it. The only thing you can do is to try to appeal to your parents' intelligence and ask them to give you a fair chance by just meeting your boyfriend. They're hurting themselves and you by being so closeminded, and this could cause family problems later on.

My best,
Buck

Dear Buck:

I'm fifteen years old and have a grandmother misunderstanding. To get to the point, she tells me that she can't choose everything for me in life, and I should go out and have some fun, But she still tries to make my decisions, and every time I ask to go somewhere, she says "no" or finds something for me to do. Please, what can I do?

Signed
Confused

Dear Confused:

I get the idea from your letter that you are living with your grandmother, and that she is bringing you up. You're going to have to talk with her, and explain that you don't understand what she means by "make your own decisions" when she still continues to make them. Show her that you're old enough to carry some responsibility of your own, if she will only give you the chance to.

Yours truly,
Buck

Dear Buck:

I am fifteen years old and I like this boy very much. He likes me too. (He's seventeen.) Mom and Dad used to like him. He went away because he had to, and when he came back he went out with someone else. Now he wants to go out with me again and I want to go out with him, but Mom and Dad don't like him anymore because he has long hair. What can I do to make them change their minds?

Signed,
Wondering

Dear Wondering:

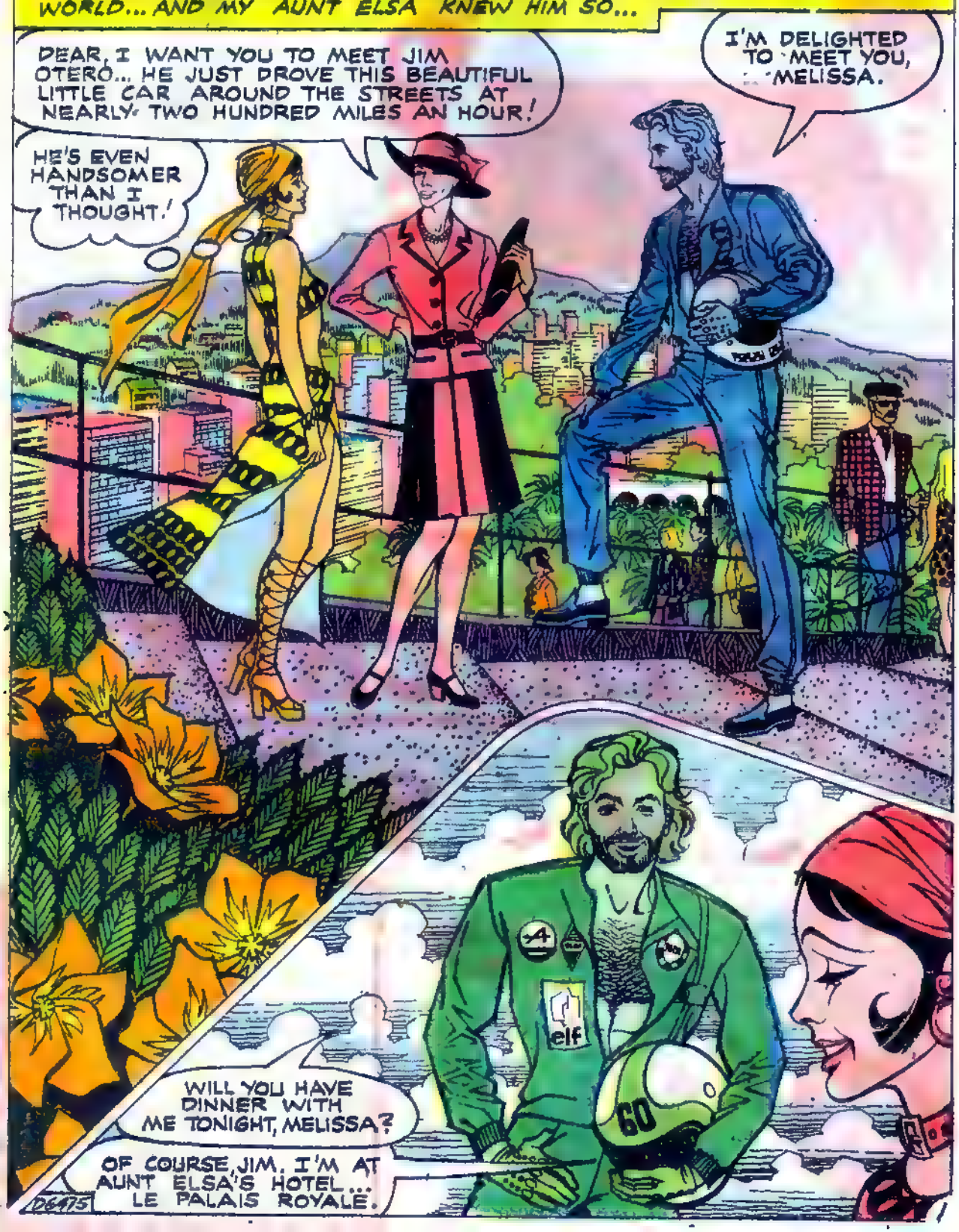
Explain to your parents that only your friend's looks changed; he didn't change. He's still the same boy they once used to like, and you still like him. See if they will allow you to invite him over so they can see that he is still a nice boy, and perhaps then they'll let you go out with him.

Sincerely,
Buck

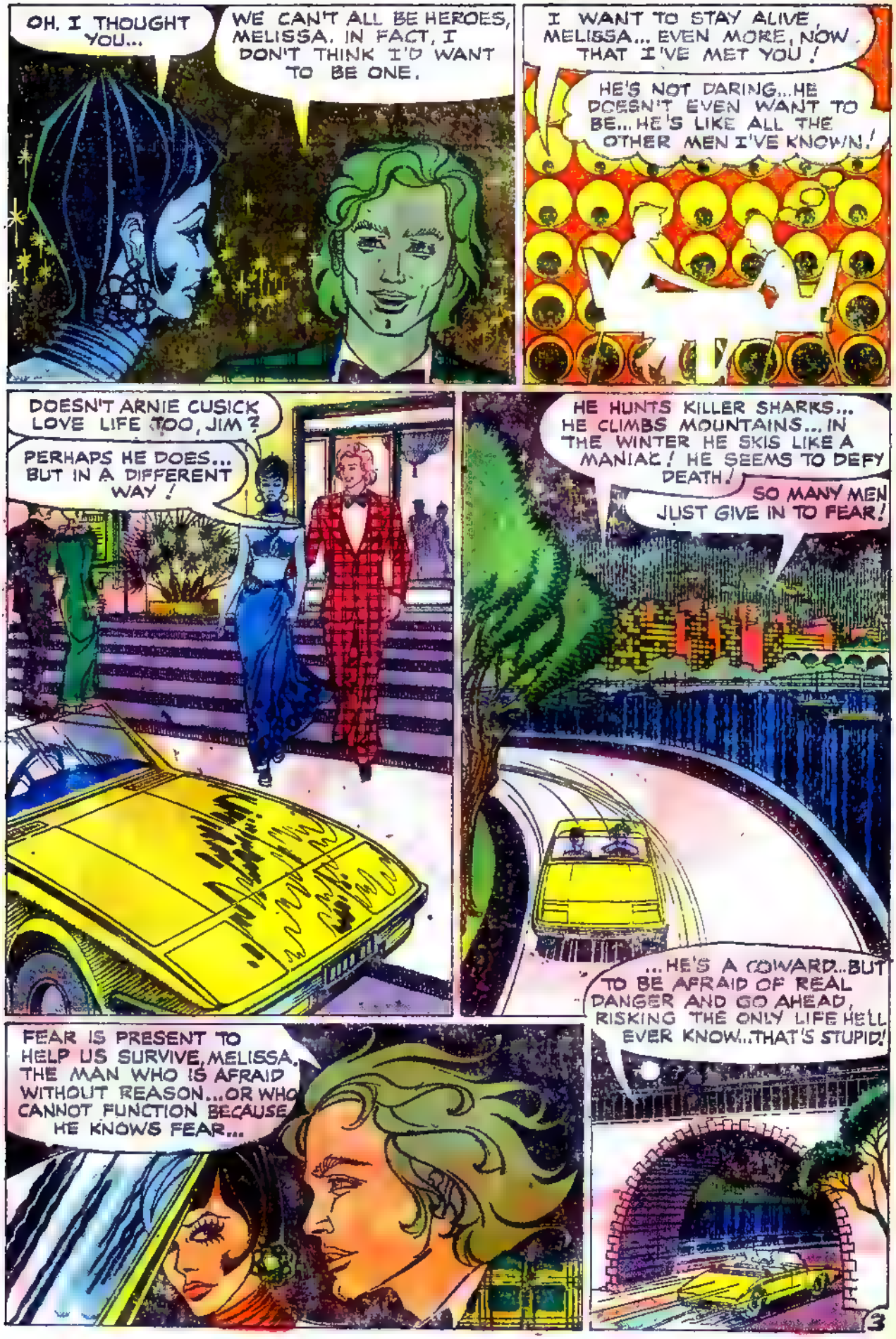
Have a problem? Write a letter to:
Buck Mason
% Charlton Comics
Charlton Building
Derby, Ct. 06418

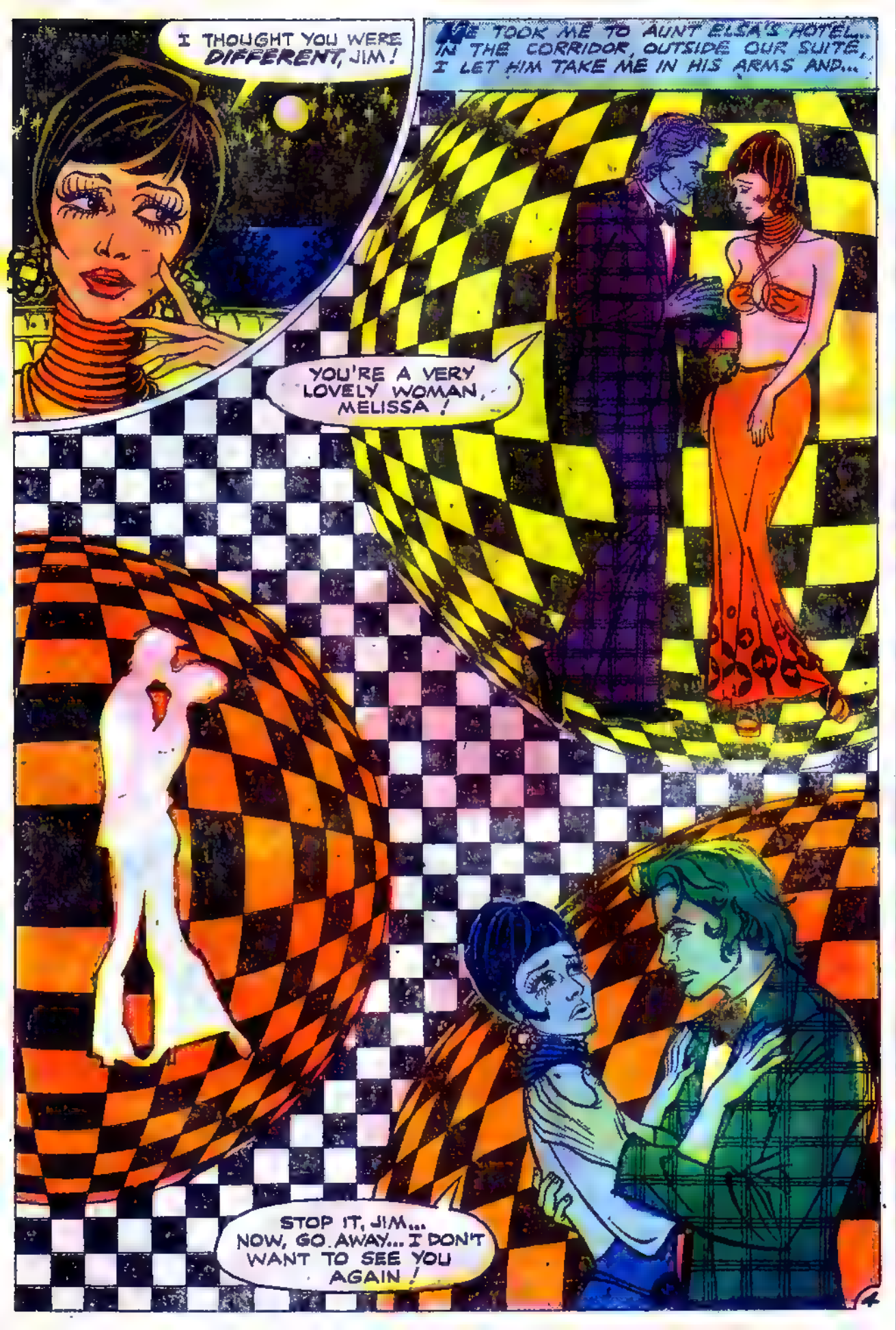
MADNESS IN MONACO

THE FIRST TIME I SAW JIM OTERO, HE HAD JUST FINISHED DRIVING A FORMULA II CAR AROUND THE FAMOUS MONACO GRAND PRIX RACE COURSE. I THOUGHT HE WAS THE HANDSOMEST, MOST ROMANTIC MAN IN THE WORLD... AND MY AUNT ELSA KNEW HIM SO...

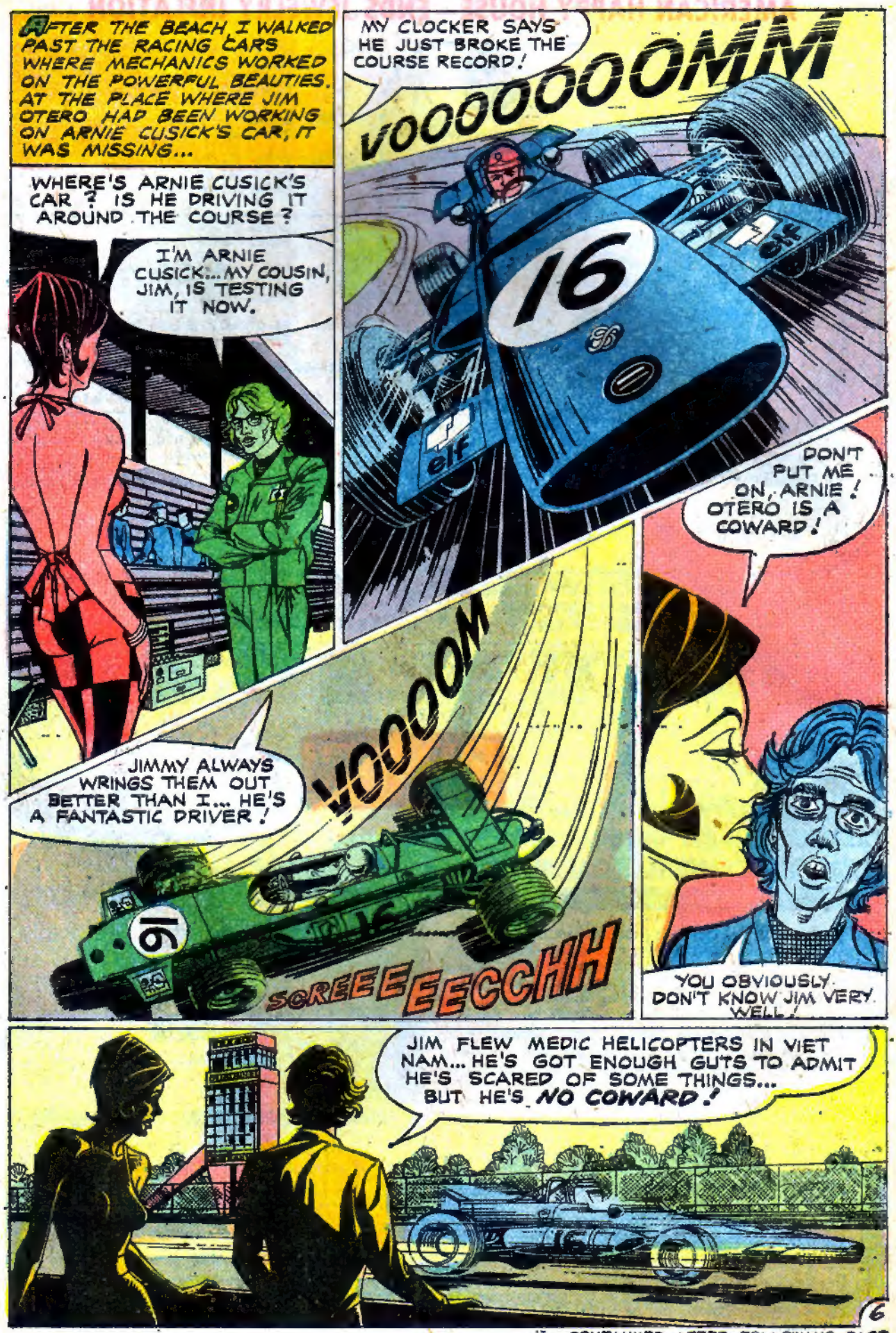

DEAR, I WANT YOU TO MEET JIM OTERO... HE JUST DROVE THIS BEAUTIFUL LITTLE CAR AROUND THE STREETS AT NEARLY TWO HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR!
I'M DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU, MELISSA.
HE'S EVEN HANDSOMER THAN I THOUGHT!
elf
WILL YOU HAVE DINNER WITH ME TONIGHT, MELISSA?
OF COURSE, JIM. I'M AT AUNT ELSA'S HOTEL... LE PALAIS ROYALE.
D6475

AUNT ELSA HAD MARRIED A VERY RICH MAN WHEN SHE WAS MY AGE... SHE'D BEEN A WIDOW FOR NEARLY TEN YEARS AND LIVED WELL!
MELISSA, DON'T BE FOOLISH ABOUT JIM OTERO. HE'S AS POOR AS YOU ARE, HE...
AUNT ELSA, I'M ONLY HAVING DINNER WITH JIM.
YOU'VE INTRODUCED ME TO VERY ELIGIBLE BACHELORS, AUNT ELSA. I THINK I'M JUST NOT READY TO GET MARRIED!
DING DONG
I'LL ANSWER IT, AUNT ELSA.
YOU LOOK VERY NICE TOO, JIM!
MELISSA, YOU'RE REALLY LOVELY.
IT WAS SUNSET AS WE DINED ON THE TERRACE OF A VERY GOOD RESTAURANT...
DO RACE DRIVERS MAKE ENOUGH TO LIVE LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME?
I'M NOT EVEN A RACE DRIVER, MELISSA. MY COUSIN, ARNIE CUSICK WILL DRIVE THAT CAR IN THE GRAND PRIX.
2


OH, I THOUGHT YOU...
WE CAN'T ALL BE HEROES, MELISSA. IN FACT, I DON'T THINK I'D WANT TO BE ONE.
I WANT TO STAY ALIVE, MELISSA... EVEN MORE, NOW THAT I'VE MET YOU!
HE'S NOT DARING...HE DOESN'T EVEN WANT TO BE...HE'S LIKE ALL THE OTHER MEN I'VE KNOWN!
DOESN'T ARNIE CUSICK LOVE LIFE TOO, JIM?
PERHAPS HE DOES... BUT IN A DIFFERENT WAY!
HE HUNTS KILLER SHARKS... HE CLIMBS MOUNTAINS... IN THE WINTER HE SKIS LIKE A MANIAC! HE SEEMS TO DEFY DEATH!
SO MANY MEN JUST GIVE IN TO FEAR!
...HE'S A COWARD...BUT TO BE AFRAID OF REAL DANGER AND GO AHEAD, RISKING THE ONLY LIFE HE'LL EVER KNOW...THAT'S STUPID!
FEAR IS PRESENT TO HELP US SURVIVE, MELISSA. THE MAN WHO IS AFRAID WITHOUT REASON...OR WHO CANNOT FUNCTION BECAUSE HE KNOWS FEAR...


I THOUGHT YOU WERE DIFFERENT, JIM!
HE TOOK ME TO AUNT ELSA'S HOTEL... IN THE CORRIDOR, OUTSIDE OUR SUITE, I LET HIM TAKE ME IN HIS ARMS AND...
YOU'RE A VERY LOVELY WOMAN, MELISSA!
STOP IT, JIM... NOW, GO AWAY... I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
4

GOOD HEAVENS, CHILD, WHAT'S WRONG?
IT'S JIM OTERO, AUNT ELSA... HE'S A COWARD!
MOST SENSIBLE PEOPLE ARE, MY DEAR. OF WHAT, EXACTLY, IS YOUR YOUNG MAN AFRAID!
OF DYING, AUNT ELSA!
A VERY SENSIBLE FEAR, MELISSA. NOW, STOP BEING CHILDISH AND GET TO BED!
I SAW THE RACE DRIVERS ON THE BEACHES... WORKING ON THEIR SLEEK, DEADLY LITTLE MACHINES...
ISN'T THAT RUBERO'S MACHINE? IS THAT RUBERO SITTING IN IT?
BUT, NO, SIGNORINA... HE IS AN ASSISTANT TO THE MECHANIC.
I AM PAOLA RUBERO, SIGNORINA. DISENCHANTING, IS IT NOT?
THERE HE IS... THE COWARD!
5


AFTER THE BEACH, I WALKED PAST THE RACING CARS WHERE MECHANICS WORKED ON THE POWERFUL BEAUTIES. AT THE PLACE WHERE JIM OTERO HAD BEEN WORKING ON ARNIE CUSICK'S CAR, IT WAS MISSING...
WHERE'S ARNIE CUSICK'S CAR ? IS HE DRIVING IT AROUND THE COURSE ?
I'M ARNIE CUSICK... MY COUSIN, JIM, IS TESTING IT NOW.
MY CLOCKER SAYS HE JUST BROKE THE COURSE RECORD!
VOOOOOOOMM
16
elf
DON'T PUT ME ON, ARNIE! OTERO IS A COWARD!
JIMMY ALWAYS WRINGS THEM OUT BETTER THAN I... HE'S A FANTASTIC DRIVER!
VOOOOM
16
SCREEEEEECCHH
YOU OBVIOUSLY DON'T KNOW JIM VERY WELL!
JIM FLEW MEDIC HELICOPTERS IN VIET NAM... HE'S GOT ENOUGH GUTS TO ADMIT HE'S SCARED OF SOME THINGS... BUT HE'S NO COWARD!
6

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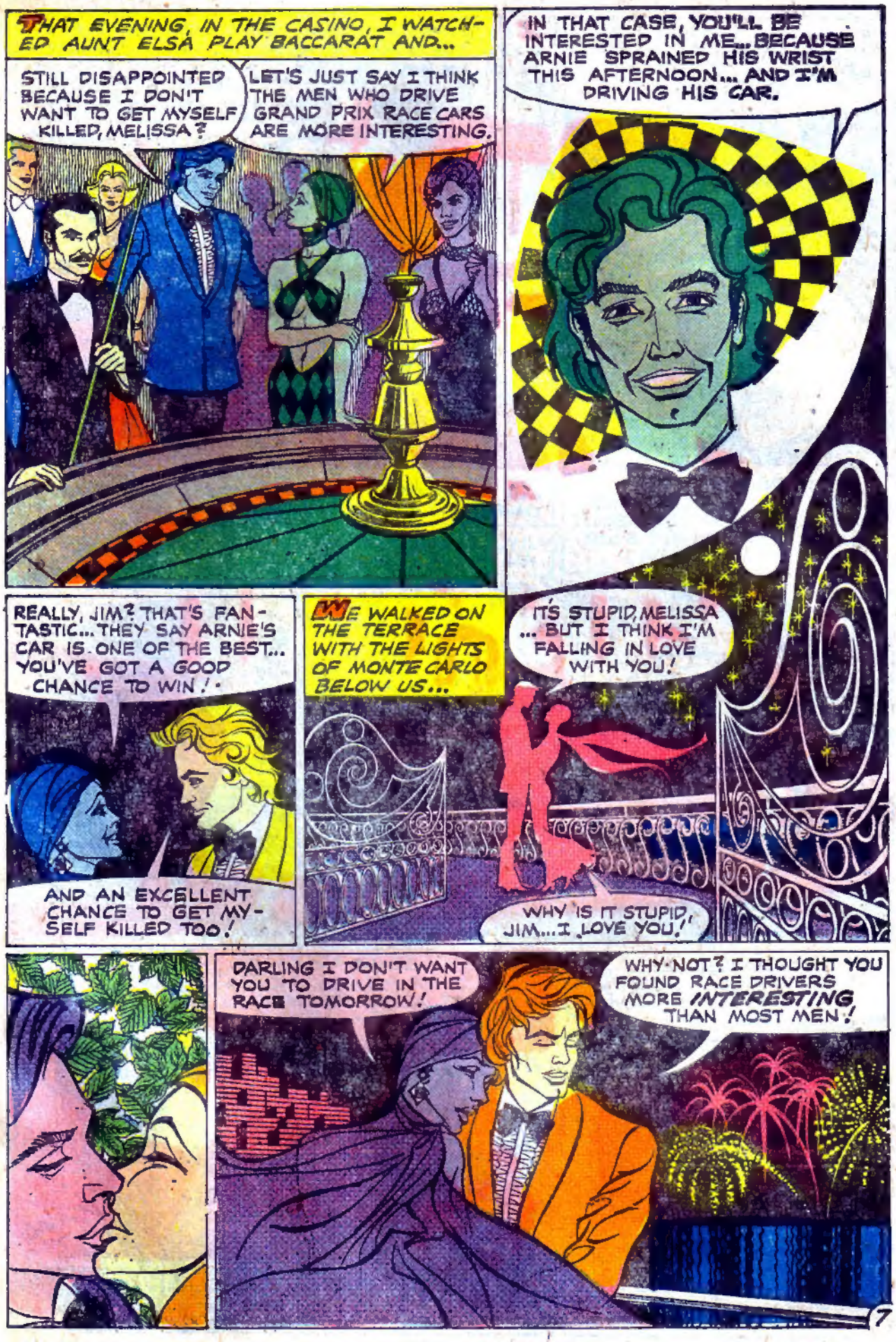
THAT EVENING, IN THE CASINO, I WATCHED AUNT ELSA PLAY BACCARAT AND...
STILL DISAPPOINTED BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO GET MYSELF KILLED, MELISSA?
LET'S JUST SAY I THINK THE MEN WHO DRIVE GRAND PRIX RACE CARS ARE MORE INTERESTING.
IN THAT CASE, YOU'LL BE INTERESTED IN ME... BECAUSE ARNIE SPRAINED HIS WRIST THIS AFTERNOON... AND I'M DRIVING HIS CAR.
REALLY, JIM? THAT'S FANTASTIC... THEY SAY ARNIE'S CAR IS ONE OF THE BEST... YOU'VE GOT A GOOD CHANCE TO WIN!
AND AN EXCELLENT CHANCE TO GET MYSELF KILLED TOO!
WE WALKED ON THE TERRACE WITH THE LIGHTS OF MONTE CARLO BELOW US...
IT'S STUPID, MELISSA ... BUT I THINK I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOU!
WHY IS IT STUPID, JIM... I LOVE YOU!
DARLING I DON'T WANT YOU TO DRIVE IN THE RACE TOMORROW!
WHY NOT? I THOUGHT YOU FOUND RACE DRIVERS MORE INTERESTING THAN MOST MEN!

IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU, MY LOVE... I COULDN'T GO ON LIVING WITHOUT YOU!
EVERY DRIVER IN THE GRAND PRIX HAS SOMEONE WHO FEELS THAT WAY ABOUT HIM... BUT IT DOESN'T STOP THEM FROM DRIVING!
IT COULDN'T CHANGE HIS MIND AND NEXT DAY WHEN THE STARTER WHIPPED DOWN HIS GREEN FLAG, JIM WAS DRIVING...
DEAR LORD, MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HIS CAR... DON'T LET HIM GET HURT!
AS IF IN ANSWER TO MY PRAYER, LESS THAN ONE LAP LATER I SAW HIS CAR...
JIM... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE... BUT THE CAR WON'T GO! IT'S THE WEIRDEST THING...
WWW
WOOOMM
IT JUST STALLED OUT... PIETRO, THE BEST MECHANIC IN EUROPE, CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY!
WHAT A SHAME, COME ON... LET'S WATCH THE REST OF THE RACE TOGETHER!
LATER, AFTER JIM PROPOSED, HE TOLD ME HIS REAL PROFESSION WAS IN THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OF A DETROIT MANUFACTURER.
I'M AFRAID I LEAD A RATHER DULL LIFE, DARLING.
I DON'T CARE, JIM... JUST SO YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING RECKLESS!
'74
END

ALEX TOTH
1928-2006

IT IS PAUL PATTON WHO SLIPS INTO TANGIER'S DAPPLED SHADOWS —
BUT IT IS THE NIGHTGARBED FIGURE OF THE FOX WHO IS NEXT SEEN — AS HE STALKS HIS CLOSING PREY...

A

VIGILANTE 407

Scan